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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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- 7 • downloading [(403)] the file and the associated virus-free certificate, said
8 virus-free certificate comprising a file signature [(207)] for certifying that the file
9 is declared virus-free by a virus-free certificate authority [(102)].
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In claim 2, line 1, delete "the preceding claim" and insert -- claim 1 --;
line 3, delete "(302)".

- 1 3. (Amended) The method according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1
2 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:
3 • a list [(301)] of one of a plurality of virus-free certificate authorities to which the
4 issuer [(202)] of the virus-free certificate must belong.

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- 1 4. (Amended) The method according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1
2 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:
3 • a virus-free certificate type [(304)];
4 • a virus-free certificate proxy [(305)] that can be used by the file server for
5 requesting a virus-free certificate when no virus-free certificate is locally
6 available.

- 1 5. (Amended) The method according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1
2 comprising the further steps of:
3 If no certificate satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements:
4 • receiving [(412)] from the file server a list of available virus-free certificates;
5 if a certificate is accepted by the client system:
6 • selecting [(413)] from the list an available virus-free certificate for the file;
7 • downloading [(404)] the file and the selected virus-free certificate[;].

1 6. (Amended) The method according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1
2 comprising the further steps of:
3 if no certificate is accepted by the client system and if the virus-free certificate request
4 does not comprise a virus-free certificate authority proxy:
5 • downloading [(406)] the file without virus-free certificate;
6 • requesting [(407)] a virus-free certificate to a default virus-free certificate
7 authority.

1 7. (Amended) A [system, more particularly a] client system [(100)], for carrying out the
2 method according to [any one of claims 1 to 6] claim 1.

9. (Amended) A method, for use in a file server [(101)], for downloading to client system [(100)] a file and an associated virus-free certificate [(200)] certifying that the file is virus-free, comprising the steps of :

- receiving [(401)] a request from a client system for a virus-free certificate associated with a file to download to said client system, said request comprising one or a plurality of requirements [(301...307)] for said virus-free certificate;
- downloading [(403)] the file and the associated virus-free certificate, said virus-free certificate comprising a file signature [(207)] for certifying that the file is declared virus-free by a virus-free certificate authority [(102)].

1 10. (Amended) The method according to [the preceding] claim 9 wherein the step of
2 receiving a request from a client system for a virus-free certificate associated with a file to
3 download to said client system, comprises the further steps of:

- 4 • determining [(402)] whether a virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the
5 virus-free certificate requirements comprised in the request;

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- 6 If a virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements
7 comprised in the request:
8 • downloading [(403)] the file and the associated virus-free certificate.

1 11. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 9 to 10] claim 9 wherein the
2 step of receiving a request from a client system for a virus-free certificate associated with
3 a file to download to said client system, comprises the further steps of:

- 4 • determining [(400)] whether a virus-free certificate is requested for the file;

5 If no virus-free certificate is requested for the file:

- 6 • downloading [(404)] the file without associated virus-free certificate.

1 12. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 9 to 11] claim 9 wherein the
2 step of receiving a request from a client system for a virus-free certificate associated with
3 a file to download to said client system, comprises the further steps of:

- 4 • determining [(402)] whether a virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the
5 virus-free certificate requirements comprised in the request;

6 If no virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements
7 comprised in the request:

- 8 • sending [(412)] a list of available virus-free certificates for this file.

1 13. (Amended) The method according to [the preceding claim] claim 12 wherein the step
2 of sending a list of available virus-free certificates for this file comprises the further steps
3 of:

- 4 • receiving [(413)] a reply from the client system indicating whether an available
5 virus-free certificate is accepted or not;

6 If an available virus-free certificate is accepted by the client system:

- 7 • downloading [(404)] the file and the accepted virus-free certificate;

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8 If no virus-free certificate is accepted by the client system:

- 9 • determining [(405)] whether a virus-free certificate authority proxy is defined in
10 the virus-free certificate request;

11 If a virus-free certificate authority proxy is defined in the virus-free certificate request:

- 12 • requesting [(409)] to this virus-free certificate authority proxy a virus-free
13 certificate for the file.

1 14. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 9 to 13] claim 9 wherein the
2 one or plurality of virus-free certificate requirements comprise:

- 3 • a list [(302)] of one or a plurality of anti-virus programs that must have been
4 executed on the file to download.

1 15. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 9 to 14] claim 9 wherein the
2 one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:

- 3 • a list [(301)] of one of a plurality of virus-free certificate authorities to which the
4 issuer [(202)] of the virus-free certificate must belong;

1 16. (Amended) The method according to [any one of claims 9 to 15] claim 9 wherein the
2 one or plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:

- 3 • a virus-free certificate type [(304)];
4 • a virus-free certificate proxy [(305)] that can be used by the file server for
5 requesting a virus-free certificate when no virus-free certificate is locally
6 available[;].

1 17. (Amended) A system, more particularly a file server system [(101)], for carrying out
2 the method according to [claims 9 to 16] claim 9.

Please add the following new claims:

1 19. The method according to claim 2 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus
2 requirements further comprise:
3 • a list of one of a plurality of virus-free certificate authorities to which the issuer of
4 the virus-free certificate must belong.

1 20. The method according to claim 19 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus
2 requirements further comprise:
3 • a virus-free certificate type;
4 • a virus-free certificate proxy that can be used by the file server for requesting a
5 virus-free certificate when no virus-free certificate is locally available.

1 21. The method according to claim 20 comprising the further steps of:
2 If no certificate satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements:
3 • receiving from the file server a list of available virus-free certificates;
4 if a certificate is accepted by the client system:
5 • selecting from the list an available virus-free certificate for the file;
6 • downloading the file and the selected virus-free certificate.

1 22. The method according to claim 21 comprising the further steps of:
2 if no certificate is accepted by the client system and if the virus-free certificate request
3 does not comprise a virus-free certificate authority proxy:
4 • downloading the file without virus-free certificate;
5 • requesting a virus-free certificate to a default virus-free certificate authority.

1 23. A client system for carrying out the method according to claim 22.

1 24. The method according to claim 23 wherein the step of receiving a request from a
2 client system for a virus-free certificate associated with a file to download to said client
3 system, comprises the further steps of:

- 4 • determining whether a virus-free certificate is requested for the file;

5 If no virus-free certificate is requested for the file:

- 6 • downloading the file without associated virus-free certificate.

1 25. The method according to claim 24 wherein the step of receiving a request from a
2 client system for a virus-free certificate associated with a file to download to said client
3 system, comprises the further steps of:

- 4 • determining whether a virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free
5 certificate requirements comprised in the request;

6 If no virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements
7 comprised in the request:

- 8 • sending a list of available virus-free certificates for this file.

1 26. The method according to claim 25 wherein the step of sending a list of available
2 virus-free certificates for this file comprises the further steps of:

- 3 • receiving a reply from the client system indicating whether an available virus-free
4 certificate is accepted or not;

5 If an available virus-free certificate is accepted by the client system:

- 6 • downloading the file and the accepted virus-free certificate;

7 If no virus-free certificate is accepted by the client system:

- 8 • determining whether a virus-free certificate authority proxy is defined in the
9 virus-free certificate request;

10 If a virus-free certificate authority proxy is defined in the virus-free certificate request:

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- 11 • requesting to this virus-free certificate authority proxy a virus-free certificate for
12 the file.

1 27. The method according to claim 26 wherein the one or plurality of virus-free
2 certificate requirements comprise:

- 3 • a list of one or a plurality of anti-virus programs that must have been executed on
4 the file to download.

1 28. The method according to claim 27 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus
2 requirements further comprise:

- 3 • a list of one of a plurality of virus-free certificate authorities to which the issuer of
4 the virus-free certificate must belong.

1 29. The method according to claim 28 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus
2 requirements further comprise:

- 3 • a virus-free certificate type;
4 • a virus-free certificate proxy that can be used by the file server for requesting a
5 virus-free certificate when no virus-free certificate is locally available.

1 30. A file server system for carrying out the method according to claim 29.

1 31. A computer program product for downloading from a file server a file and an
2 associated virus-free certificate certifying that the file is virus-free, said computer
3 program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable
4 program code thereon, said computer readable program code comprising:

5 computer readable program code means for sending a request to a file server for a
6 virus-free certificate associated with a file to download from said file server, said request
7 comprising one or a plurality of requirements for said virus-free certificate;

8 computer readable program code means for downloading the file and the
9 associated virus-free certificate, said virus-free certificate comprising a file signature for
10 certifying that the file is declared virus-free by a virus-free certificate authority.

1 32. A computer program product according to claim 31 wherein the one or plurality of
2 virus-free certificate requirements comprise a list of one or a plurality of anti-virus
3 programs that must have been executed on the file to download.

1 33. A computer program product for downloading files as in claim 31 wherein the one or
2 plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise a list of one of a plurality of
3 virus-free certificate authorities to which the issuer of the virus-free certificate must
4 belong.

1 34. A computer program product for downloading files as in claim 31 wherein the one or
2 plurality of anti-virus requirements further comprise:
3 a virus-free certificate type;
4 a virus-free certificate proxy that can be used by the file server for requesting a
5 virus-free certificate when no virus-free certificate is locally available.

1 35. A computer program product as in claim 31 further comprising:
2 computer readable program code means for receiving from the file server a list of
3 available virus-free certificates if no certificate satisfies the virus-free certificate
4 requirements; and

36. A computer program product as in claim 31 further comprising:
computer readable program code means for downloading the file without
virus-free certificate and requesting a virus-free certificate to a default virus-free
certificate authority, if no certificate is accepted by the client system and if the virus-free
certificate request does not comprise a virus-free certificate authority proxy.

37. A computer program product for downloading from a file server a file and an associated virus-free certificate certifying that the file is virus-free, said computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code thereon, said computer readable program code comprising:

computer readable program code means for receiving a request from a client system for a virus-free certificate associated with a file to download to said client system, said request comprising one or a plurality of requirements for said virus-free certificate; and

computer readable program code means for downloading the file and the associated virus-free certificate, said virus-free certificate comprising a file signature for certifying that the file is declared virus-free by a virus-free certificate authority.

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4 computer readable program code means for determining whether a virus-free
5 certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements comprised in the
6 request; and

7 computer readable program code means for downloading the file and the
8 associated virus-free certificate if a virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free
9 certificate requirements comprised in the request.

1 39. A computer program product as in claim 37 wherein the computer readable program
2 code means for receiving a request from a client system for a virus-free certificate
3 associated with a file to download to said client system, further comprises:

4 computer readable program code means for determining whether a virus-free
5 certificate is requested for the file; and

6 computer readable program code means for downloading the file without
7 associated virus-free certificate if no virus-free certificate is requested for the file.

1 40. A computer program product as in claim 37 wherein the computer readable program
2 code means for receiving a request from a client system for a virus-free certificate
3 associated with a file to download to said client system, further comprises:

4 computer readable program code means for determining whether a virus-free
5 certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free certificate requirements comprised in the
6 request; and,

7 computer readable program code means for sending a list of available virus-free
8 certificates for this file if no virus-free certificate for the file satisfies the virus-free
9 certificate requirements comprised in the request.

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1 41. A computer program product as in claim 37 wherein computer readable program
2 code means for sending a list of available virus-free certificates for this file further
3 comprises:

4 computer readable program code means for receiving a reply from the client
5 system indicating whether an available virus-free certificate is accepted or not; and,

6 computer readable program code means for downloading the file and the accepted
7 virus-free certificate if an available virus-free certificate is accepted by the client system;
8 and,

9 computer readable program code means for determining whether a virus-free
10 certificate authority proxy is defined in the virus-free certificate request if no virus-free
11 certificate is accepted by the client system; and

12 computer readable program code means for requesting to this virus-free certificate
13 authority proxy a virus-free certificate for the file if a virus-free certificate authority proxy
14 is defined in the virus-free certificate request.

1 42. A computer program product as in claim 37 wherein the one or plurality of virus-free
2 certificate requirements comprise a list of one or a plurality of anti-virus programs that
3 must have been executed on the file to download.

1 43. A computer program product as in claim 37 wherein the one or plurality of anti-virus
2 requirements further comprise a list of one of a plurality of virus-free certificate
3 authorities to which the issuer of the virus-free certificate must belong.

1 44. The computer program product as in claim 37 wherein the one or plurality of
2 anti-virus requirements further comprise:

3 a virus-free certificate type; and